

FORD FIGURE \$15,000,000 UNDER GOVERNMENT'S

Estimate Far Below U. S. Engineers' on Muscle Shoals Costs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—An answer to Henry Ford's letter delivered today to Secretary Weeks by engineers representing the Detroit manufacturer in his negotiations for the purchase and lease of the government's nitrate and water-power projects at Muscle Shoals, Ala., will be written by the War Secretary tomorrow. At the moment it is dispatched, it was announced tonight, the contents of the two communications, that received today and the secretary's reply, probably will be made public.

The meeting between the government officials and those representing Mr. Ford today was said to have accomplished little toward bringing the negotiations to a close. Mr. Ford's letter was described as being merely an opinion as to what the cost of construction of dams No. 1 and No. 2 would be. The figure fixed by Mr. Ford at \$3,000,000, exclusive of cost of improvements necessary to navigation in the Upper Tennessee River, was said to be \$15,000,000 under that estimated by army engineers as the minimum required for the work.

Neither J. W. Worthington nor W. B. Mayo, acting for Mr. Ford, today were authorized to speak for him, it was said, further than to explain the purport of his letter.

PREDICTS 1926 TO BE YEAR FULL OF HORRORS

British Journal of Astrology Draws Horoscope When Mars and Mercury Are in Conjunction.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The year 1926 is destined to shake the world to its foundations, both physically and politically. It is to be a succession of plagues, famine, floods, shipwrecks, rioting and revolution. So says the British Journal of Astrology, which has drawn the horoscope for that year, when the planets Mars and Mercury will be in conjunction.

"Six years later the great Armageddon is to take place. It will be a final conflict between Mohammedanism, allied with Bolshevism, against the united Anglo-Saxon world. It will end in a 'universal peace' in 1932, but there will be so few of us left, and we shall all be so tired that peace should happen anyhow," the horoscope says.

REICHSTAG REJECTS MOTION FOR COLORS

BERLIN, Dec. 19.—The Reichstag has by a decisive majority rejected the motion put forward by the Nationalists and the People's party to have the black, white and red restored as the colors for Germany's merchant marine.

The motion was opposed by the parties of the center and the left, whose applause at the result of the balloting was drowned by cries of "shame." The motion was the initial attempt to effect a constitutional change, which the government declined to undertake unless a majority in the Reichstag demanded it.

NEW ORLEANS NAMED BY VETERANS' CONGRESS

Next Convention Will Take Place in Middle of October, 1922.

PARIS, Dec. 19.—The Veterans' Congress Sunday chose New Orleans as the place for holding of its next convention, which will take place in the middle of October, 1922.

The congress, during its session appointed an economic commission for the purpose of furthering business relations between the veterans of the allied countries. Another commission was appointed to study the question of exchange.

Resolutions were adopted, declaring that the veterans should be represented at any economical and financial conference at Washington that may be held, and also that any country's delegation participating in a conference on limitation of armaments and kindred subjects should include a veteran among the delegates.

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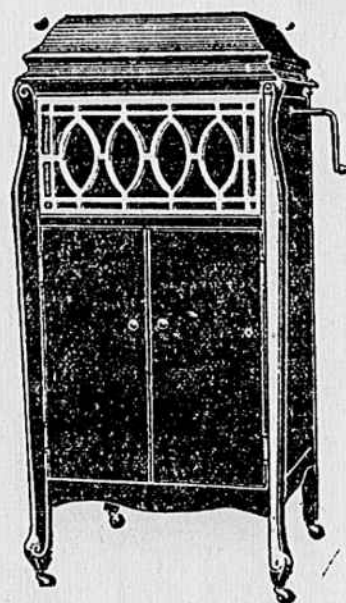
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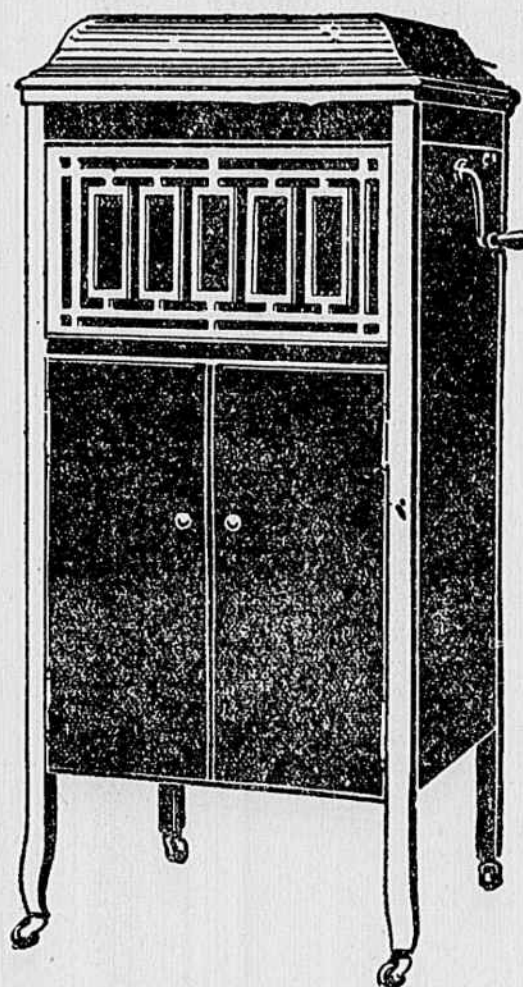


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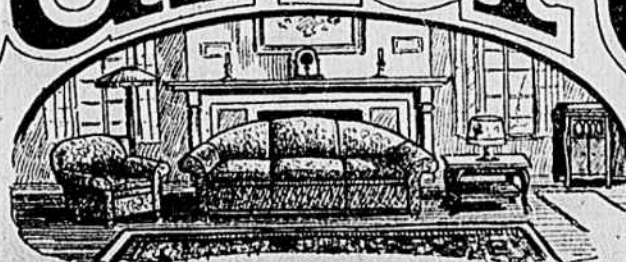


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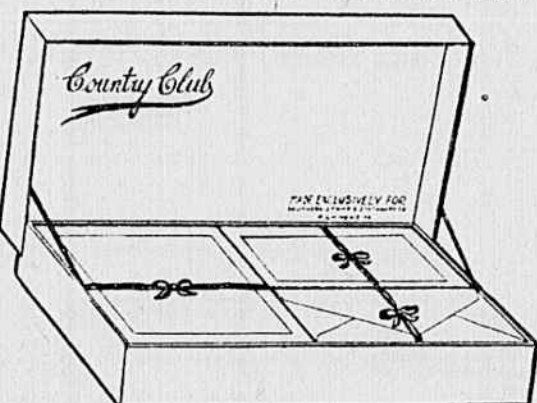
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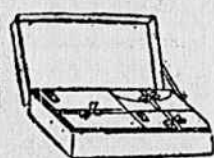
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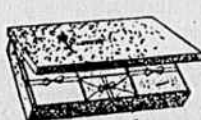
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